



# FRAUD SQUAD ALERT

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## 'Tis the Season for MEDICARE SCAMS

“OPEN ENROLLMENT” season for Medicare and Medicare supplement plans is usually from October 15 through December 7 each year. During this period, we are all encouraged to take a look at our current Medicare plan and decide if it is working for us and if we want to change to another plan. Criminals are opportunistic and use this time to try to contact us to offer ‘deals.’ Their intent is to steal our Medicare number, personal information, and money. Here’s how to avoid becoming a victim.

- ① **DON'T** give your Medicare card number to anyone offering free testing, treatment, equipment, or medications. **Remember**, protect your Medicare number as you protect your Social Security number.
- ② **NEVER** give personal information to a caller claiming to be from Medicare. **Remember**, Medicare will never contact you for your Medicare number or other personal information.
- ③ **LEARN** how to **BLOCK** numbers leaving messages that offer Medicare deals or other opportunities that sound too good to be true. **Also**, don't be surprised if you receive the same message again from a different number. **KEEP BLOCKING!**
- ④ **DON'T ANSWER YOUR PHONE** unless you recognize the number! It's best to let the call go to your answering machine or voicemail. If the criminals can't talk directly to you, they can't scam you. **Remember**, criminals can fake the phone number to look like it is coming from Medicare (spoofing).

Visit [Medicare.gov/fraud](https://www.Medicare.gov/fraud) for more information and tips on preventing Medicare scams and fraud.

**To report Medicare fraud: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**



For more information or if you have questions, give us a call:

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